

*Kalnins*

Attachment F to 188-CSSWU

Summary of Comments provided  
by Kalnins

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The book "The Struggle for Freedom in the Baltic States" by Bruno Kalnins has been reviewed in 23 Swedish newspapers of various political views.

Rickard Lindström, a member of the Swedish parliament and former editor of the Morgon Tidningen, a newspaper which is the mouthpiece of the Swedish government party, writes as follows: - "The Struggle for Freedom in the Baltic States" discussed the language, the independent culture and the dramatic history of three nations with characteristics differing entirely from those of other European nations. These peoples have carried their heritage as it were through the flames of hell. For this reason, they deserve to receive the consideration and attention of the other nations. Bruno Kalnins is one of the founders of independent Latvia and through the whole period of democracy a member of the Latvian parliament. He has lived and suffered together with his people. Bruno Kalnins is both a wholehearted Latvian and a Baltic patriot, but at the same time, he thinks calmly and impartially. His book belongs to that class of influential literature where the reason governs the feelings. It is hoped that Bruno Kalnins' clever and impartial voice will be widely heard in our country. In this book every word reveals a wide-awake personality."

Herbert Tingsten, the internationally known professor of Political Science and editor-in-chief of the largest Swedish newspaper, the Dagens Nyheter, when reviewing Bruno Kalnins' book, "The Struggle for Freedom in the Baltic Countries", praises the author as a Latvian scientist and politician. "Bruno Kalnins has written an excellent book, lucid, clever and void of passion." . . . . "This book ought to be read by all who do not want to forget the Baltic problem or pass by indifferently or without taking any notice whatever."

Carl Helmer Johansson, editor-in-chief of Östgöten, reviewing Bruno Kalnins' book writes as follows: - "In post war Europe the Baltic region is an open, bleeding wound. Although at present we are not able to do anything on behalf of the Baltic countries, we dare not forget them. In his book, Bruno Kalnins admirably analyses the possibilities of solving the Baltic problem. His work is an excellent political and social account of the period of independence in the Baltic States enabling the reader to follow the great achievements of these three small countries in all spheres of economical and spiritual life. Bruno Kalnins' work is based on reliable evidence; it is concentrated, stylistically blameless and it is founded on pronouncedly democratic principles."

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Jan Engfeldt writes in the conservative Swedish newspaper, Syd-svenska Dagbladet: With his book, Bruno Kalnins helps to keep awake the conscience of the world on behalf of the Baltic States. Kalnins himself has been repeatedly made to drink the bitter cup to the dregs. He has been persecuted both by the Communists and the Nazis. He belongs to those numerous people who cannot return to their country."

In the liberal paper, The Expressen, Eke Palmarstrand begins his review with the following words: "The storms of the last decades destroyed the Baltic countries. Bruno Kalnins' book should be considered as the continuation of the struggle of independence in the Baltic countries. It ought to wake a feeling of responsibility in the Western Powers as regards the tragic fate of the Baltic countries. Bruno Kalnins' book is an exact documentation, a scientific work based on reliable evidence. It fills a gap in our knowledge of the Baltic countries."

The Västgöta Demokaten writes: "Bruno Kalnins' book is an excellent demonstration on behalf of freedom and independence in the Baltic States."

The Christian liberal newspaper, Svenska Morgonbladet, writes: "The Struggle for independence in the Baltic States is impartially depicted in the book written by B. Kalnins, Latvian politician and member of parliament. His book is remarkable for its scientific precision and completeness and is the best book ever written about the Baltic countries in Swedish."

In the trade union newspaper, Aftontidningen, editor Yngve Lundberg particularly stresses that after 1918 and during the whole period of independence, the Baltic peoples proved that they are worthy of the rights to independence. Kalnins' book is a document and a support for the Baltic peoples to carry out their struggle to the end.

Sven Hjort writes in a Gothenburg newspaper, Ny Tid: "Bruno Kalnins has suffered terribly as a victim of Fascism and Communism, and it is the Soviet Union against which he now turns with accusations. The book ought to make the zealous adherents of Communism think over the matter."

H. Sten, editor of the Arbetsbladet in Gävle, writes: "The world at large has paid too little attention to the Baltic States. Bruno Kalnins in his book, 'The Struggle for Independence in the Baltic States' has shown a precision which is characteristic for a scientist and love of freedom and justice which is a distinctive quality of a democrat. The words used by Kalnins - Baltic history will not end until the Balts live in their countries - ought to become a profession of faith which cannot be broken for the whole democratic world."